

VEHICLE PANEL WITH REINFORCEMENT LAYER

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A vehicle panel (10) includes a core layer (12) and a reinforcement layer (14) positioned on one or both sides of the core layer (12). The core layer (12) is made of a material with heat absorption or insulation properties, such as polypropylene, and the like. The reinforcement layer (14) is comprised of fiberglass strands (22) intermingled with a polymer (24) to form a blended composition having a linear density in a range between about 50 and 200 g/m². The vehicle panel (10) may also include an adhesive layer (16) between a cover material (20) and the reinforcement layer (14) on one side of the core layer (12). The vehicle panel (10) may also include a scrim material (18) adjacent the reinforcement layer (14) on the opposite side of the core layer (12). The reinforcement layer (14) provides dimensional stability to the vehicle panel (10), while reducing the overall weight and thickness of the vehicle panel (10) as compared to conventional vehicle panels.

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